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DECLARATION OF THE CAUSES MO-

*ving the Queenes Maiestie of England, to
prepare and send a Nauy to the Seas, for the
defence of her Realmes against the King of Spaines
Forces, to bee published by the Generals of the saide*

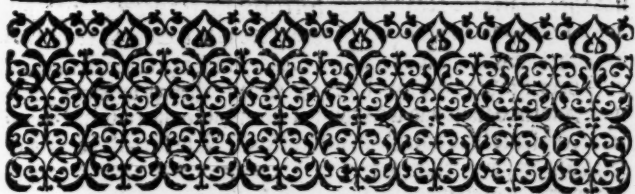
*Nauy, to the intent that it shall appeare to the World, that
her Maiestie armeth her Nauy onely to defend her
selfe, and to offend her enemies, and not to of-
fend any other, that shall forbear to streng-
then her enemye, but to vse them
with all lawfull fauours.*



*Imprinted at London, by the Deputies
of Christopher Barker, Printer to the
Queenes most excellent Maiestie*

Anno Dom. 1596.





¶ A declaration of the Causes
moving the Queenes Maiestie of Eng-
land, to prepare and send a Nauy to the Seas
for the defence of her Realmes against
the King of Spaines Forces, &c.



All Christian people, to whom
this Declaration shall come to
be read or heard, greeting. We
Robert, Earle of Essex, & Cwe,
Viscount Hereford, Lord Ferrers
of Chareley, Bourghcer, and
Louane, &c. And Charles lord
Howard, Baron of Effingham,
Lord high Admirall of England,
&c. hauing the charge of a Royall
Nauy of Ships, prepared and
sent to the Seas, by the most ex-
cellent Princess the Lady Eliza-
beth, Queene of England, France, and Ireland, &c. doe giue all
men knowledge, that the said Nauy vnder our charge is by her Ma-
iestie prepared and sent to serue on the Seas, for defence of her Ma-
iesties Realmes, Dominions, and Subiects, against such mightie
Forces, as we are aduertised from all partes of Christendome, to be
alredy prepared by the King of Spaine, and by further prouisions
of Men and Ships dayly sent for, are to be mightily increased, to in-
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made her Maiesties Realmes: as heretofore in the yeere of our Lord
 1588. was attempted (euen when there was a Treatie continued
 by both their Commissioners for a Peace) with a greater Army then
 euer before in his time was set to the Seas: though by Gods good-
 nesse, and the valour and wisdom of her Noble and faithfull Sub-
 iects, the same was notably made frustrate. And because her Maie-
 stie hath good intelligence of perfide amitie with all Kings and
 Princes of Christendome, sauing with the King of Spaine, who
 hath this many yeeres most vniustly professed openly great enimitie
 by diuers actions, both against her Royall person, and her people,
 and Countreies, without any iust cause first giuen on her Maiesties
 part. Therefore we the saide Earle, and Lord Admirall, doe ascer-
 taine all persons, that wee are most straightly commaunded by her
 excellent Maiestie to forbear from offending in this our Voyage of
 any maner of persons of what Nation soeuer, except the saide Kings
 naturall Subiects, or such others bozne Strangers, as shall giue
 to the saide King manifest aide, with Men, Ships, Artillerie, Victual,
 and other Warlike provisions for inuasion of her Maiestie. Which
 her Maiesties commandement we meane duetifully to obserue: and
 doe therefore giue straight charge to al persons that shal serue in this
 Navy vnderneath vs, vpon paine of extreme punishment to obserue
 the same. Yet to auoyde all occasions that may breed question, who
 they are, being not the King of Spaines Subiects, that shalbe char-
 ged by vs to be manifest aiders for the furnishing and strenghtening
 of the saide Kings forces, provided either by land or Sea, to attempt
 any inuasion of her Maiesties Countreies: We do for the liquidation
 of this doubt, earnestly in Gods Name, require and charge all per-
 sons, that are not the saide Kings naturall Subiects, and yet that
 haue giuen him ayde with their Ships, Victual, and Munition, as
 is aboue saide, to withdrawe all their said Shippes prepared for the
 warre, and all their provisions of hostilitie out of any Hauens of
 Spaine, or Portugall, or from the company and seruice of the Kings
 Ships against our Navy, and therewith to returne either to their
 owne Countreies, or if they so shall like to come to our Navy: to
 whom in the reuerend name of our Soueraigne Lady the Queenes
 Maiestie, we doe promise all securitie, both for their persons and
 goods

goods to be vsed and defended as friends, and to suffer al their Shippes and provisions, that were either taken by the King of Spaine, or intended for his seruice, or that shall bee by the owners withowtawen from his ayde, to remaine in their owne free dispositions, so as the same be vsed in all sortes as friends, and not as enemies to the Queenes Maiestie, and to vs her Generals. And if any shall vpon knowledge of this her Maiesties most honourable order, and of our promise (to obserue the same as fauourably as wee may) willingly and manifestly refuse to accept this our offer, and shall not endeavour themselves to perforce this reasonable request, tending to their good and libertie, wee shall then be iustly moued, as by the lawe of Armes we may, to take and vse all such so refusing this our offer, as manifest ayders of the King of Spaine, with forces to inuade her Maiesties Dominions, and so manifest Enemies: and in such case of that refusall, if any harme shall happen by any attempt againt their Persons, Shippes, & Goods by any our Nauie, for the ayding of the said King: there shall be no iust cause for them hereafter to complaine, or to procure their naturall Princes and Lords to sollicite redressions or amends for the same. And for the more notification hereof, we haue thought good to haue the Originall hereof to bee signed with our hands and with our seales, to bee seene by any that will require to reade or see the same: And likewise wee haue put the same in Print, in French, Italian, Dutch, and Spanish, and haue also caused the same to bee distributed into as many Ports of Spaine and Portugall, as conueniently might be for the better knowledge to bee had in the saide Ports, as also in all other Partes vnder his subiection.

R. Essex. C. Howard.